

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Ambulance Providers
Managed Care Plans
Regional Administrators
CSO Administrators

Memorandum No. 02-95 MAA

Issued: January 6, 2003

For Information Call: 1-800-562-6188

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration

Subject: Targeted Vendor Rate Increase for Ambulance Services

Effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2003, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will implement a one-time targeted vendor rate increase for ambulance services equal to approximately twenty-five percent (25.0%) of MAA's overall budget for the ambulance transportation program. This action was authorized by the 2002 Legislature.

Based on input from the Washington Ambulance Association (WAA), MAA will apply:

- Approximately one-half of the amount of the vendor rate increase allocated for ground ambulance services to the base rates (first client only), and the other half to mileage; and
- The amount of the rate increase allocated for air ambulance services entirely to the lift-off fees.

Effective January 1, 2003, the revised rates are:

Procedure Code(s)	Brief Description	Maximum Allowable Fee
0002A, 0003A, 0004A, and 0013A	Basic Life Support (BLS) base rate	\$110.25
0001A, 0014A, and 0015A	Advanced Life Support (ALS) base rate	\$159.40
0007A, 0008A, and 0016A	Loaded Mileage	\$ 4.50/mile
0503A	Fixed wing liftoff	\$859.80
0504A	Rotary liftoff	\$725.80

Rates for all other ground and air ambulance procedure codes are unchanged.

Bill MAA your usual and customary charge. Reimbursement will be the lower of the billed charge or the maximum allowable fee.

To obtain this memorandum or the updated fee schedule for MAA's Ground and Air Ambulance Medical Transportation Billing Instructions electronically, go to MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov> (click on Provider Publications/Fee Schedules).